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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,253	12/21/2001	Kenji Sugawara	85A 3182	7894

7590 03/04/2005
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Los Angeles, CA 90067-3024

EXAMINER

DASTOURI, MEHRDAD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 03/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/026,253	SUGAWARA, KENJI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mehrdad Dastouri	2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claims contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

In Page 5 of the specification, variables N and M are defined as position coordinates of an arbitrary point on the image of semiconductor chip 14a, and have been referred to as the same coordinate positions throughout the specification. However, in the Numerical Expression 1 defined in Page 6 of the specification, the same variables are identified, respectively, as “the number of pixels within the template image” and “the brightness value of the template image”, in the Numerical Expression 1.

It is further submitted that in Numerical Expression 1, the range of variable I in ΣI has not been specified. It is not known whether the range covers the pixels in the range identified in page 6, Line 7 of the specification, or it covers the entire template image as implied in the definitions on the paragraph after the Numerical expression 1. Similarly, the ranges for variables N and M in ΣM and ΣN are not specified.

Furthermore, defining M as the brightness value of the template image is vague and indefinite.

Additionally, it is not clear that R_0 is the self-correlation value for the pixels in the range identified in page 6, Line 7 of the specification, or it covers the entire template image as implied in the definitions on the paragraph after the Numerical expression 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Alumot et al. (U.S. 5,982,921).

Regarding Claim 1, Alumot et al. disclose a position detection device comprising:
a means which acquires amounts of coincidence of identical reference templates for a position of coincidence of said templates and for a nearby position thereof, said identical reference templates being superimposed (Column 2, Lines 34-44; Column 2, Lines 50-53, first stage, repetitive comparison; Figure 9; Column 8, Lines 29-43. In a die-to-die comparison, different dies on the chip, which are identical reference templates, will be compared.);

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a means which calculates a coincidence discriminating value based upon a coincidence amount of said position of coincidence and a coincidence amount of said nearby position (Column 2, Lines 34-44; Column 2, Lines 50-53; Figures 14 and 14a; Column 12, Lines 1-10);

a means which acquires amounts of coincidence between one of said reference templates and an inputted image for a maximum value position at which an amount of said coincidence between said reference templates and said inputted image shows a maximum value and for a nearby position of said maximum value position (Column 2, Lines 44-49; Column 2, Lines 54-67, Column 3, Lines 1-8; Figure 14; Column 12, Lines 1-10; Column 13, Lines 33-53); and

a means which judges that said maximum value position is a coincidence position between said one of reference templates and said inputted image, in a case where a degree of drop in an amount of coincidence at said nearby position of said maximum value position with respect to a maximum value of amount of coincidence between said one of reference templates and said inputted image is greater than said coincidence discriminating value (Figures 22-25; Column 18, Lines 55-67, Column 19, Lines 1-5; Column 20, Lines 25-67, Column 21, Lines 1-43).

With regards to Claim 2, arguments analogous to those presented for Claim 1 are applicable to Claim 2.

Other prior art cited

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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U.S. Patent 4,651,341 to Nakashima et al;

Publication No. US 2002/0034338 A1 to Askary.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mehrdad Dastouri whose telephone number is (703) 305-2438. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au can be reached on (703) 308-6604. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mehrdad Dastouri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2623
March 3, 2005

MEHRDAD DASTOURI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Mehrdad Dastouri